

# Chairman's 2010 Year End Report

Priority Area	Activity or Accomplishment
<b>Gary Chicago International Airport (GYI)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Comprehensive Business Plan</b> completed to guide future decision making and development.</li> <li>2. Gained agreement with the GYY Board to engage an <b>independent project manager</b> to oversee negotiations with railroads and manage relocation of the EJ&amp;E (CN) rail line and extension of the main runway.</li> <li>3. Negotiations resumed with railroads to gain <b>agreement on rail relocation</b> necessary to allow for runway extension. At year end, final agreement appears within reach to allow for construction to begin by April 2011.</li> </ol>
<b>Regional Bus Authority (RBA)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement reached to dedicate limited funds to try to <b>preserve essential regional bus service</b> through December 31, 2011, allowing an opportunity for the Indiana General Assembly and units of local government to consider how to assure ongoing operating funds.</li> <li>2. Consolidated <b>Hammond Public Transit</b> operations on August 4 and increased volume by 58 %</li> <li>3. Established <b>express bus service</b> established between Dyer and Chicago</li> <li>4. Extensive, but unsuccessful, efforts to implement a plan for consolidation of <b>Gary Public Transportation Corporation</b> operations</li> </ol>
<b>Lake Michigan Shoreline Redevelopment</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement reached with the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission and the Lake Michigan Coastal Program of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources on an <b>implementation plan</b>.</li> <li>2. Construction begun on major portions of the <b>Whiting Lakefront Project</b>, the <b>Porter Gateway Project</b>, and <b>East Chicago Filtration Plant Relocation</b></li> <li>3. Major components of the <b>Hammond/Wolf Lake Project</b> are <b>virtually complete</b></li> <li>4. Dialogue underway to evolve a plan with the City of Gary for ongoing management and maintenance of <b>Marquette Park Revitalization</b> effort</li> </ol>
<b>Commuter Rail Service</b>	Emphasis placed on <b>updating feasibility studies</b> of extensions of NICTD service to southern Lake and Porter Counties, analyzing both alternative routings and investment alternatives to gain greater regional benefit from NICTD service.
<b>Economic Development</b>	Gained support for creating a \$6 Million <b>Job Creation Fund</b> to be administered in coordination with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to provide "gap closing" on competitive opportunities after other sources of financing have been exhausted and additional support is needed to close the deal.
<b>Operations</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Internal control audit by the Indiana Finance Authority and the annual financial audit completed by independent certified public accountants both resulted in "<b>clean opinions</b>."</li> <li>2. <b>Fiscal Task Force</b> formed to review and plan RDA financial transactions</li> <li>3. Administrative costs continued at <b>less than 3%</b></li> <li>4. High priority assigned to identifying ways to gain greater leverage on investments by state and local governments by <b>seeking additional private investment and federal funding</b>.</li> <li>5. New method implemented for assuring <b>compliance with MBE/WBE and Buy Indiana requirements</b> and new guidance provided for contracting with Northwest Indiana companies</li> </ol>
<b>Porter County Relationship</b>	Litigation initiated by Porter County government to terminate their membership in the Regional Development Authority was successfully defended at the trial court level, but was appealed to the Indiana Court of Appeals, with trial hearing set for January 20, 2011. At year end, Porter County named Jeff Good, a hospitality firm owner, to be a member of the RDA Board.
<b>Funding</b>	All funding entities are current with their investments in the RDA except for the City of Gary, which is delinquent by \$8.825 Million. A repayment plan is being negotiated.